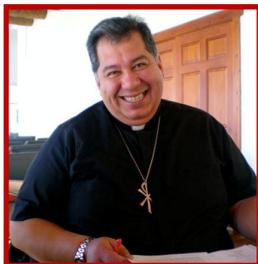


St. Mark's Remarks

Seek God • • Serve Others • • Transform Lives

MAY/JUNE 2016

Services: 7 am-Spanish Service . . 8:30 am-Praise Service . . 9:45 am-Children's Chapel . . 11 am-Choral Holy Eucharist Rite II . . Wed. 10 am-Healing Service



Mother's Day was originally founded as an antiwar rallying cry by Unitarian Julia Ward Howe. This history reminds us that Mother's Day is more than a day for flowers and pancakes. It's a call to honor the resiliency of all those who mother, especially those who bear the brunt of hurtful policies or who are weighed down by stigma in our culture. It's an opportunity to take action to create the conditions so that all families can thrive.

If Mother's Day is about celebrating motherhood, don't queer moms, immigrant moms, moms of children with disabilities, and moms with disabilities deserve to be celebrated? If Mother's Day emphasizes the importance of the maternal bond, don't genderqueer moms, adoptive moms, foster moms, trans moms, grandmas parenting grandkids, and single moms also experience that same bond? If the purpose of Mother's Day is to highlight the influence of mothers, aren't stepmoms, incarcerated moms, young moms, refugee moms, low-income moms, and moms living on sovereign land also influential?

It's not new news that greeting card companies aren't in the business of celebrating the marginalized — after all, who wants to read a greeting card that says,

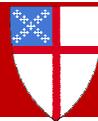
“Happy Mother's Day, Mom. I'm sorry you got deported.” But whether they highlight our stories or not, they exist. Their experiences are real and as long as policies are in place to dehumanize, shame, and ignore them, holidays like Mother's Day won't accurately illustrate how they move through the world.

As happens on most holidays, mothers and those of us who love them are exploited for profit. We're convinced that those with maximum purchase power love our moms the most, and unfortunately many of us, myself included, internalize that propaganda. So we go to the drug stores, the jewelry stores, the chocolate shops, and we search. We search for something that shows the mamas in our lives how much we love them—how much they're appreciated, needed, and wanted. But these things that we're told are important don't hold a candle to what many mamas really need -->: LOVE. (excerpt from April 2016 Building Faith, edited and modified).

Change in Service Times . . .

Beginning May 14, 2016, the time of the Spanish Service will change from 1:00 pm on Sunday to **7:00 am** on Sunday. Please make a note of this change and share it with your neighbors and friends. This change will offer a more convenient time for our members of the Spanish Community to attend worship services and Sunday School.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church



322 North Horne Street, Mesa, AZ 85203

Office Hours: Tues —Fri: 9 am-1 pm

(480) 964-5820

E-Mail: office@stmarksmesa.org

Web Site: www.stmarksmesa.org



Join us at www.stmarksmesa.org for updates and more news!

Parish Directory

The Rev. Gerardo Brambila	Vicar
The Rev. Steven Ford	Assistant Priest
	
Chris Perry	Director of Music
Gloria McManus	Parish Administrator
Deb Cannon	Licensed in Children's Ministries
Donald Henney Sr.*	Senior Warden
Carl Burgess *	Junior Warden
Al Rausch	Treasurer

Bishop's Committee Members

Mayra Alvarado*	John Ddamba*
Elizabeth Hernandez	Dudley Jans
Patrick Mack*	Jim Poulos
	Paige Stalcup
Patrick Mack* fills vacated seat —term expiring January 2017	

Delegates to the Annual Diocesan Convention

Mayra Alvarado*	Caleb Collins*
Gloria McManus*	Jim McManus*

Julia Coleman*, Terry Gordon* and Samuel Mungai* will serve as first, second and third alternates respectively.

*Newly Elected

Ministry Leaders

Acolytes	Paige Stalcup
Altar Guild	Terry Gordon
Choir and Praise Ensemble	Chris Perry
Christian Formation for Youth	Deb Cannon
Communications	Dianne Nunez
	Kathy Cheatham/
	ML Burgess
Cursillo	Monica Larsen
Daughters of the King	Marge Fountain
ECW (Women's Ministry)	Jeanette Rogers
Food Pantry	Penny Place
Greeters	Judy Hossack
Hispanic Ministry	Fr. Brambila
Liturgical Arrangements	Viviana Brambila
Office Angels	Gloria McManus
Pastoral Care	Elaine Austin
PRIDE (Men's Fellowship)	Jim McManus
Scriptorium	Deb Cannon
Sunday Lay Ministries	Fr. Brambila/
	Gloria McManus
Tai Chi	Dee Greiner
Thrift Store	Sally Worthington
Ushers	Kathy Smith/
	Bob Cheatham

Visit us on the Web: www.stmarksmesa.org and join us on Facebook at St. Mark's Episcopal Church-Mesa, AZ

Vacation Bible School Begins June 20th Thru June 24th . . .



A week full of fun, adventure and learning is indicative of St. Mark's VBS. Mark your calendars today for your children as well as your neighbor's children to attend this "cool" and exciting event. It is **free** . . . And the hours are from 9 am—11:30 am in Knight Hall. Registration forms will be available in the Narthex and on the St. Mark's Web site — www.stmarksmesa.org. Watch Facebook and the weekly bulletins for more information. Contact Dianne Nunez at 480-641-8073 or nunezkevin@msn.com to volunteer or donate to this remarkable event.

Cursillo Weekend Coming Soon!



The next Three-day Cursillo Weekend, #117, is scheduled for July 14-17, 2016, at Chapel Rock Conference Center in Prescott. It will be a coed weekend and the deadline for applications is June 1, 2016. If interested, please contact Monica Larsen at 480-621-8158, any other Cursillista member of St. Mark's, or Fr. Gerardo. See below for information regarding Cursillo and **The Weekend**.

What is Cursillo?

- an opportunity to grow in faith and in spirituality,
 - a deeper understanding of the teachings of Jesus and how we can serve Him,
 - an experience of living and sharing with others in a loving and caring Christian community and realizing that this can be extended into our own environment,
- a continuing community that gives support and encouragement to help Christians carry out their Baptismal Vows.

The Weekend:

Cursillo includes a three-day weekend that begins on Thursday evening and concludes on Sunday. The weekend includes fifteen talks, five meditations and a Eucharist every day. The Cursillo weekend is not a retreat, but an opportunity to meet clergy and laity seeking to strengthen our faith. It provides an environment to experience the reality of the gift of God's love through shared prayer, individual meditation, worship, study, fellowship, laughter, tears, and unconditional love.

"The Cursillo Ministry **has no secrets!** There is a publication entitled "Unlocking The Cursillo Weekend" available in the Narthex. Our mission is to bring others to know Jesus Christ, to be leaders in the community supporting and encouraging Christians to carry out their Baptismal Vows. For more information go to <http://episcopalcursilloministry.org/index.htm>"



Thrift Store

New Summer Hours

9am-noon

Thursdays and Fridays
2nd and 4th Tuesdays



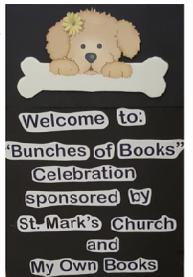
We welcome all the help we can get and also your gently used rummage. Please see Sally Worthington if you are interested—sworthington1@cox.net or 480-290-4321.

Upcoming Events . . .

- May 15 — Pentecost
- May 15 & June 12 — ECW Meeting — Following the 11 am service in the conference room
- May 18 & June 15 — PRIDE Meeting — 6:00 pm in Knight Hall
- May 22 — Trinity Sunday
- June 19 — Father's Day
- Bible Study and Confirmation Class — Every Wednesday in Knight Hall following the 10 am Healing Service
- Scriptorium — Every Wednesday in Knight Hall — 6 pm in Conference Room — All are welcome
- Tai Chi — Every Saturday Morning — 10 am in Knight Hall — All are welcome
- ZUMBA — Every Friday in Knight Hall at 9 am — All are welcome

Reaching out to the Community . . .

On Saturday, April 30th, St. Mark's and its associated ministries — ECW, Daughters of the King, Cursillo and PRIDE — hosted an **AMAZING** Book Fair and Celebration for the first grade class at Edison Elementary School — just down the street from St. Mark's. Mary Twentyman, one of our own, and her core team, Joni Rogers and Maria Eads, who partner with Mary in her own small non-profit called "My Own Books", and Deb Cannon, also one of our own, were the creators of this eventful and successful day with the cooperation and assistance of the Principal, Alex McDonald, of Edison Elementary.



Over 120 invitations were made and distributed to the students inviting them individually along with their parents and siblings to enjoy the "Bunches of Books" Celebration at St. Mark's. Upon arrival, each child was given a small *Beanie Baby* puppy that they could adopt and name as their own. Once an adoption was validated, the party began with music, inside and outside games and crafts galore — many even chose to sit quietly and hear a story read by a volunteer. Each child was given the opportunity to choose six (6) books that they could take home to read over the summer and begin to build their own library. In addition, the children won door prizes. Some were small prizes and other lucky students won stuffed animals, backpacks, coloring and painting books and supplies, book ends, and miscellaneous fun toys and craft supplies. What's a party without food? . . . Pupcorn, pupdogs and pupcakes were on the menu!



The entire event was a labor of love and compassion — and just a very tiny bit of anxiety being it was the first event of this kind at St Mark's. Excitement and enthusiasm filled the entire St. Mark's campus — laughter and children's excited voices and way too many smiles to count — and from time to time I would hear a puppy lightly bark and then squeal! It was an **AWESOME** event! And oh — the oooo's and awwww's when the children met Dudley Evans — sniffing around in the front lawn of the Church.



Many thanks to ALL of the volunteers — including all of the members of the ASU AlphaKappaLamda Fraternity who spearheaded all of the "on-the-lawn" festivities, students from Westward High School and many of Mary's personal friends who were seen helping out inside.

Many volunteers took a "boat load" of pictures and I wish I could print them all for our readers — but space is limited. Please check the bulletin board in the breezeway where many pictures will be posted for your viewing.
